(b) if so, the number of scholarships and the amount awarded during 1964–65 ?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (a) Yes.

(b) Thirty-nine scholarships amounting to Rs. 3,531 were utilised during the year 1964–65.

SRI M. RAJAH IYER : May I know, Sir, whether these scholarships will be continued year after year ?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Yes, Sir.

Aided High Schools Accounts

* 163 Q.—SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) the number of aided high schools for which accounts have not been audited for the year 1963–64 ; and

(b) the reasons therefor ?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (a) 383.

(b) Consequent on the introduction of free education with effect from 1st April 1964 teaching and compensation grants payable to all aided schools have been spread over three years. Accordingly one-third of the total number of schools has been audited during 1964–65. Another one-third will be audited during the current year.

SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN : Sir, are the Government aware of the hardship caused to the aided managements by this and will the Government see that all the schools are audited at least during the current year ?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : The Government have no such proposal.

SRI M. RAJAH IYER : If there is bound to be delay in the audit, will the Government liberalise the rules at least and make advance grants to the schools ?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : If the hon. Member puts a separate question, I shall answer.

Gifts from foreign countries

* 164. Q.—SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN and SRI MOHANLAL MEHTA : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether any communication has been received from the Government of India regarding 'gifts' from foreign countries recently ; and

(b) if so, what it is ?